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letter of 15 October 1978 from the
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Spain

DATE:

SUBJECT Statements of Socialists from Spain; Prieto's
Letter to the Interior Socialists

INFO. See text

DIST. 28 February 1947

PAGES 3

SUPPLEMENT

ORIGIN France, Paris

25X1X6

1. On or before 3 February 1947, [redacted] interviewed a 25X1X6 delegate of the executive commission of the Spanish Socialist Party inside Spain, who had come from the interior to attend the Socialist meeting held in Toulouse.

2. The Socialist delegate, [redacted] 25X1X6 refers to only as "J", stated that he had participated in Madrid in conversations with monarchists and anti-Franco generals, such as Antonio Aranda Mata and Juan Beigbeder y Atienza, and that various leftists had interviewed former British Ambassador Mallet repeatedly. "J" was convinced that the Socialists were the group best qualified to direct the Republican Government-in-Exile, which, in his opinion, should have a policy described by him as "open". According to the Socialist delegate, the establishment of a Socialist government with such a policy would be in accord with the desires of the forces of the interior and with British advice.

3. "J" expressed the opinion that the government-in-exile, under Socialist leadership, should be one of wide representation, including rightists, and should seek the support of the anti-Franco military men. If such a government is not constituted, he said, and if, as the only other means through which the goal might be reached, an effort is made to establish a provisional government outside of "republican legality", the Socialists will not oppose its constitution, but rather will work for it. In this eventuality, he believes, republican legal institutions should remain apart from the compromise, serving as the symbol of republicanism.

4. [redacted] 25X1X6 stated that one of the Socialist delegates from the interior, of whom there were three, told him that when he left Madrid, the conversations between the leftists and the monarchists were in a state of suspension. The interior Socialists had written to Prieto, he said, advising him of the negotiations, and Prieto's reply had served as a deterrent to the continuation of conversations.

5. [redacted] 25X1X6 stated on 20 January that he had seen copies of the message to Prieto from the executive committee of the Socialist Party inside Spain and of Prieto's answer to it. Below is a resume of [redacted] statements:

25X1X6

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